

REMARKS

The above Amendments and these Remarks are in reply to the Office Action mailed March 24, 2004.

With the withdrawal of Claims 7-15 and the addition of Claims 16-26, Claims 1-6 and 16-26 are presented herewith.

Election

In the Office Action, the Examiner required the claims to be restricted to one of two alleged inventions: (1) Group I, including Claims 1-6; and (2) Group II, including Claims 7-15.

Applicants hereby elect to proceed with Group I, including Claims 1-6. Claims 7-15 have been withdrawn without prejudice so that they can be submitted with a divisional application.

Applicants make this election to further the prosecution process. This election is not meant to indicate that the Applicants agree or disagree with the restriction requirement.

New Claims

Applicants have added new Claims 16-26 to recite additional features of the invention. No new matter has been added.

In view of the above Amendments and Remarks, consideration of Claims 1-6 and 16-26 is respectfully requested.

Enclosed is a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for extending the time to respond up to and including today, May 26, 2004.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 501826 for any matter in connection with this document, including any fee for extension of time, which may be requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 

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